

The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Proper 18

September 10, 2023

The Collect of the Day

O Lord God, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from Ezekiel 33:1-11

The word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, speak to your people and say to them, If I bring the sword upon a land, and the people of the land take a man from among them, and make him their watchman, and if he sees the sword coming upon the land and blows the trumpet and warns the people, then if anyone who hears the sound of the trumpet does not take warning, and the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet and did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But if he had taken warning, he would have saved his life. But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, so that the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any one of them, that person is taken away in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand.

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in

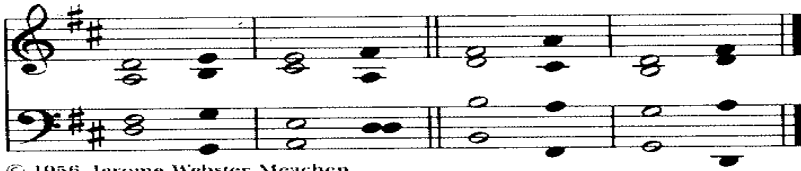
the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 119:33-48

The Psalm will be chanted.



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- 33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your **statutes**, *
and I shall keep it to the **end**.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your **law**; *
indeed, I shall keep it with my whole **heart**.
- 35 Make me go in the path of your **com-mandments**, *
for therein is my **de-sire**.
- 36 Incline my heart to your **testimonies**, *
and not to covetous **de-sires**.
- 37 O turn away my eyes, lest they behold **vanity**, *
and revive me in your **ways**.
- 38 Confirm your word to your **servant**, *
and to all those who **fear you**.
- 39 Take away the reproach that I am a-**fraid of**, *
for your judgments are **good**.
- 40 Behold, my delight is in your **precepts**; *
O revive me in your **righteousness**.
- 41 Let your loving mercy come to me, O **LORD**, *
even your salvation, according to your **word**.
- 42 So shall I answer those who **taunt me**, *
for my trust is in your **word**.

- 43 O do not take the word of your truth utterly out of my **mouth**, *
for my hope is in your **judgments**.
- 44 So shall I always keep your **law**, *
even for ever and **ever**;
- 45 And I will walk at **liberty**, *
for I seek your com-**mandments**.
- 46 I will speak of your testimonies also, even before **kings**, *
and will not be a-**shamed**;
- 47 And my delight shall be in your com-**mandments**, *
which I have loved ex-**ceedingly**.
- 48 My hands also will I lift up to your com-**mandments**, *
and I will meditate on your **statutes**.

Glory be to the Father, and to the **Son**, and to the Holy **Spirit**: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever **shall be**, world without end. **A-men**.

A Reading from Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 18:15-20

All standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Holy Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Proper Preface

The Lord's Day

For the Celebrant to read after the Sursum Corda.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life .